promotion of e-governance.The Freedom of Information Act, 2002 has been enacted for ensuring greater transparency, openness and accountability in the functioning of the public authorities.

Seminar on corruption cases investigated by CBI

2882. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

DR.T.SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Centre has decided to hold meeting of concerned officials on February 20, 2003 to discuss issues related to long-pending cases against public servants and also decided to give prosecution sanction in over 200 cases of corruption being investigated by Central Bureau of Investigation;

(b) if so, whether a three day seminar on effective ways to curb corruption was held recently;

(c) whether the seminar was jointly organized by CBI, Asian Development Bank and Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development and was attended by representatives of 14 countries, including India; and

(d) if so, what was the outcome of the seminar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) A meeting was convened on 20th February, 2003 to expedite sanctions for prosecution to CBI in the pending cases, adhering to the time limit of 3 months by the respective Ministries and to effectively monitor such sanctions.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The seminar was organized by Asian Development Bank and Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development (ADB-OECD) Anti-Corruption initiative for Asia Pacific and Government of India. CBI Academy, Ghaziabad hosted the seminar. The seminar was attended by 29 delegates belonging to the countries of Asia/Oceana Region, including 4 delegates from India.

(d) Training of the "Trainers" of participating countries was done in the seminar with experience sharing, case studies related to prosecution in corruption offences in the respective countries.